

Message Text

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12

ACTION EA-10

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0183

INFO AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

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TAGS: PINS, PINT, VS

SUBJ: PRESIDENT THIEU DESCRIBES GVN FOREIGN POLICY AS INDEPENDENT AND HOSTILE TO NO COUNTRY NOT HOSTILE TO VIETNAM

DEPARTMENT PASS IBS/NCA

1. IN THE COURSE OF A SPEECH NOVEMBER 9 BEFORE NATIONAL PUBLIC PROSECUTOR CONVENTION IN SAIGON, PRESIDENT THIEU COMMENTED ON THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM'S NATIONAL SITUATION AND FOREIGN POLICY. FOLLOWING ARE RELEVANT EXCERPTS FROM VIETNAM PRESS ACCOUNT GIVING GIST OF THIEU'S REMARKS:

2. BEGIN TEXT.

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ON THIS OCCASION, PRESIDENT THIEU DEALT WITH THE NATIONAL

SITUATION. HE SAID WE ARE NOW FACED WITH THE PROBLEM OF SURVIVAL. WE SHOULD NOT SAY THAT WE ARE DIRECTED BY ANY BIG POWER OR ANY NATION BUT WE, THE NATIONALISTS OF THIS FREE WOUTH, MUST DECIDE OUR OWN SURVIVAL AND MUST NOT IMPUTE THE MISTAKE OR RESPONSIBILITY TO ANYONE ELSE. ...

THE PRESIDENT ANALYZED THE RVN FOREIGN POLICY, AN OPEN AND INDEPENDENT POLICY ADVOCATING NO HOSTILITY TO ANY COUNTRY IF THE LATTER IS NOT HOSTILE TO US.

SOME DAY, HE ADDED, THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM WOULD ESTABLISH DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH RUSSIA, RED CHINA AND EVEN NORTH VIETNAM IF THESE COUNTRIES DO NOT INTERVENE IN OUR INTERNAL AFFAIRS.

TO FREE WORLD NATIONS, HE SAID, THE RVN DOES NOT ENTIRELY DEPEND ON THE FOREIGN POLICY OF ANY COUNTRY. FOR MORE THAN A YEAR, THE RVN HAS CANVASSED FOR AND SUCCEEDED IN THE ESTABLISHMENT OF DIPLOMATIC TIES WITH NON-ALIGNED AND ARAB NATIONS.

THE PRESIDENT STRESSED, OUR PRESENT PROBLEM IS THAT WE, THE NATIONALISTS, MUST FIGHT TO THWART THE COMMUNISTS' ATTEMPT TO DOMINATE SOUTH VIETNAM.

THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE ALSO UNMASKED THE COMMUNIST TREACHEROUS ACTS AFTER THE SIGNING OF THE PARIS AGREEMENT. UP TO NOW, THE COMMUNISTS HAVE FAILED TO OBSERVE PROVISIONS OF THE JANUARY 27, 1973 PARIS AGREEMENT, PREVENTING THE SOUTH VIETNAMESE PEOPLE FROM EXERCISING THEIR RIGHT TO SELF-DETERMINATION IN A GENERAL ELECTION UNDER INTERNATIONAL SUPERVISION.

THE PRESIDENT SAID THAT THE COMMUNISTS ONLY WISH TO BRING SOUTH VIETNAM TO A SITUATION SIMILAR TO LAOS WHICH IS BUT AN INITIAL GOAL IN THEIR PLOT TO TAKE OVER SOUTH VIETNAM.

AT PRESENT, HE SAID THE COMMUNISTS, ON THE ONE HAND, RESORT TO MILITARY FORCE WITH 500,000 INFILTRATED NORTH VIETNAMESE TROOPS AND ON THE OTHER HAND, USE THEIR LACKEYS TO CREATE SOCIAL UNREST IN THE REAR WITH AN ATTEMPT TO DISRUPT THE NATIONALIST RANKS AND ESTABLISH A COALITION GOVERNMENT IN UNCLASSIFIED

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SOUTH VIETNAM, THUS PUTTING WORLD OPINION BEFORE A "FAIT ACCOMPLI". (SIC. PROBABLE MEANING: "CONFRONT WORLD OPINION WITH A FAIT ACCOMPLI.")

THUS, THE DUTY OF THE NATIONALISTS IS TO PRESERVE THE NATIONAL INTEGRITY, HE SAID.

THE PRESIDENT RECALLED THAT THE NATION HAS SURVIVED TO

DATE THANKS TO THE ANTI-COMMUNIST SPIRIT AND WILL OF THE PEOPLE,
BUT THE ARMED FORCES NUMBERING 1.5 MILLION MEN HAS PLAYED
THE MOST REALISTIC PART IN THE NATIONAL DEFENSE. HOWEVER TO
DEFEND THE SOUTHERN HALF OF VIETNAM, BESIDES THE STRENGTH OF
THE ARMED FORCES, THERE MUST BE STABILITY IN THE REAR.

THE PRESIDENT SAID THAT EXCESSIVE CLAIMS FOR FREEDOM
AND DEMOCRACY COULD LEAD TO THE LOSS OF THE NATION. RECENT
ACTIONS OF OPPOSITION GROUPS, A HANDFUL OF IRRESPONSIBLE
NEWSMEN SHOWED THAT THEY WANTED TO FORM A COALITION GOVERNMENT
IN SOUTH VIETNAM AND ARE EXHORTING FOR THE FORMATION OF THE
SO-CALLED THIRD FORCE.

HE DENOUNCED THE TERM "THIRD FORCE" AS AN INVENTION BY
THE OLD FRENCH COLONIALISTS WHO HAD ACTED IN COLLUSION WITH THE
COMMUNISTS TO PARTITION VIETNAM THROUGH THE 1954 GENEVA AGREE-
MENT. AND THE OLD FRENCH COLONIALISTS HAD ALWAYS GONE HAND IN
HAND WITH THE COMMUNISTS, HE SAID. END TEXT
MARTIN

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